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Aruba Hi-Winds 2010 draws to a close with a gala night at Paseo Herencia Mall



Dioni Gaudidino and fellow Venezuelans take first, second and third place.



Kite boarding junior champion Hendrick Burgers of Aruba



Men's Kite first place winners, Oscar Hurtado of Venezuela,



Masters first place Mac MacFarlane of Aruba with second place from Bonaire



Nicla van der Velden of Aruba first in women's racing



Youngest competitors Guppy class



Kite Loop winner Quincy Connor



Big kids champ Ethan Westera of Aruba

For story see page 5

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Queen Elizabeth II makes rare NY visit

NEW YORK (AFP) — Queen Elizabeth II yesterday made a rare, whirlwind trip to a sweltering New York where she addressed the UN General Assembly and paid homage at Ground Zero.

The one-day trip was only the third visit to the Big Apple in Elizabeth II's 58-year reign.

The 84-year-old monarch last came to New York in 1976 and her UN appearance was the first since she spoke there

in 1957, a mere four years after being crowned.

Arriving from a nine-day trip to Canada, the queen and her husband Prince Philip made a brief stop in New York, where temperatures were expected to hit 101 degrees Fahrenheit (38 Celsius) at the start of a week-long heat wave.

The queen first addressed the General Assembly, then met privately with members of the Security Council, as well

as UN diplomats.

The queen later laid a wreath at the site of the former World Trade Center, which was destroyed in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Afterwards she was to meet with relatives of victims, as well as representatives of the police and fire crews who responded to the attack in which Islamist hijackers flew two airliners into the Twin Towers, killing almost 3,000 people.

Toyota issues U.S. recall of 139,000 Lexus vehicles

DETROIT, Michigan — Toyota Motor Corp said yesterday it had received reports more than three years ago of faulty engine valve springs at the center of a U.S. recall of nearly 139,000 luxury Lexus vehicles it announced last week.

Toyota plans to recall 270,000 luxury Lexus and Toyota Crown vehicles across the United States, Japan, Canada, Australia, Europe and other countries due to the potential defects that could lead to engine failures.

The report on the U.S. recall to U.S. safety regulators yesterday is the latest blow to Toyota, which has recalled more than 10 million vehicles

worldwide, mostly due to the potential for unintended acceleration.

Toyota said in its notice to the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that it had received a report from the Japan market in March 2007 about abnormal noise and engine shaking and examined a broken engine valve spring.

The notice to regulators said there was a possibility the valve springs could degrade over time, leading to failure.

The automaker said it made improvements to its casting process after the initial report, but received more reports of broken valve springs. Toyota

increased the thickness of the valve springs in August 2008 and again in September 2009.

From October 2009 onward, Toyota received an increasing number of reports that valve springs produced before August 2008 were breaking, as well as of total engine failures, though not of crashes or injuries, the automaker said.

Toyota said it would replace the engine valve springs with the new thicker version at no cost. It did not provide safety regulators with a recall schedule.

US gov't sues Arizona over immigration law

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The US government filed suit yesterday against Arizona in a bid to block the state's controversial immigration law which President Barack Obama's administration has slammed.

A Justice Department statement said the state law hampered the authority of the Obama administration to enforce national immigration policy. Federal laws do not permit the development of a "patchwork of state and local immigration policies," it said.

"Setting immigration policy and enforcing immigration laws is a national responsibility," US Attorney General Eric Holder said in the statement.

Heatwave hits the Northeast

NEW YORK -- Temperatures soared toward 100 degrees or more yesterday along much of the East Coast, as air conditioners strained to cool the sweating masses and the unlucky sought out cooling centers - or anywhere else they could beat the heat.

After an extended Fourth of July weekend when temperatures inched into at least the 90's from Maine to Texas, The National Weather Service issued heat advisories until 11 p.m. today for much of the Northeast, mid-Atlantic and parts of Michigan and Ken-

tucky.

Today was forecast to be the most humid day of the stretch.

With people cranking up their air conditioning, energy officials predicted near-record demand for power. Utilities and regional electrical system operators cited ample generation capacity and expected no major blackouts, though, and just a smattering of power failures were reported.

The heat wave is poised to move south into North Carolina this week.

Oil comes ashore in Texas

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana (AFP) — On Sunday tar balls washed ashore in Texas, the fifth and final Gulf coast state to be affected.

The tar balls from the spill arrived on beaches in Texas, more than 500 miles (800 kilometers) away, though it was unclear how the crude got there.

"Testing found that the oil was lightly weathered, raising doubts that the oil traversed the

Gulf from the spill source," the disaster response center said.

"Boats carry oil collected during the response to Texas for processing, raising the possibility the oil could have been transported on a vessel," the statement said.

Tar balls in Louisiana's Lake Pontchartrain, on the outskirts of New Orleans, are also being tested to determine if they are from the spill, raising contamination fears.

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Savaneta Government office closed today

SAVANETA -- The government of Aruba announces that its auxiliary office situated in Savaneta is closed today in the afternoon hours. Services are from 7:30 a.m. to noon.

After midday, new air conditioners and computers will be installed. Consequently, the personnel cannot give service to clients.

On Thursday, July 8, all services will run as normal.



ANNOUNCEMENT

SETAR N.V. informs all its clients that the last day to pay their telephone, cellular, Internet and Cable T.V. bills is

Thursday, July 8, 2010

SETAR advises its clients who pay their bills online to pay extra attention to their account NR when paying their telephone, cellular and Internet bills, so that their payments can progress accordingly. The number on the bills consists of 16 digits and is situated at the barcode on the bottom of the bills.

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Lost of people visited Comfort healthcare with pain in the leg, knee and back

Even ZAKUMI helped with the testing for Aetrex shoes



Since the promotional broadcasting of Aetrex shoes during the 2010 world cup at TeleAruba, a lot of people are undergoing the free test of plant'i pia at Comfort Healthcare.

At the testing a scanner evaluates the feet of clients and gives recommendations on the special shoes available for them. The shoe help relieve pain in the legs, knees and back. Already a large group of clients noticed a drastic change after the scan. Many of them also made use of the promotion to buy Aetrex shoes at very attractive prices.



Photos show the Aetrex scanning machine, the

friendly staff and Zakumi trying the different Aetrex shoes available at Comfort Healthcare Center.

Donkey Sanctuary volunteers needed



The Donkey Sanctuary, situated in Sta. Lucia, Santa Cruz, is looking for new volunteers. They need volunteers to work on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Volunteers has as task feeding, cleaning, educating, talking to guests and selling merchandise in the souvenir shop.

Volunteers get to meet wonderful, loving animals that appreciate all the help they can get, in addition to meeting people from all over the world.

Interested persons can call at cell 593-2933 to sign up.

Watching three tropical waves

The main tropical wave of interest is located in the western Caribbean. This wave is producing widespread, but disorganized clouds, showers and storms near the east coast of the Yucatan Peninsula.

This system will continue to move to the northwest at 10 - 15 mph for the next couple of days and could become the next tropical depression.

There is a medium chance (30%) that this system develops in the next 48 hours. Even without further development, it will bring heavy rain and gusty winds to the Yucatan Peninsula.

The system will continue

northwestward through the Gulf of Mexico where there is more possibility of development. It will stay well away from Southwest Florida.

The tropical wave in the northern Gulf went ashore yesterday and no longer has a chance to develop.

It will bring rain to parts of the northern Gulf from Louisiana to the Florida panhandle.

There are two other weaker tropical waves: one near the Lesser Antilles and another in the middle of the Atlantic.

There is only a slim possibility of development from either of these.



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Trevor Eman: more than just an island racer



Trevor Eman [center] with his crew which includes past mountain motor Pro Stock icon Carl Baker [far left].

Gradually, Trevor Eman's American Drag Racing League learning curve is getting less steep.

The 23-year-old Eman is in his first full year competing in the ADRL's Extreme Pro Stock class, and he showing a lot of progress.

Eman qualified eighth at the ADRL Hardee's Independence Drags IV at Heartland Park in Topeka, Kan., this past weekend. He proceeded to win his first-round match-up with Elijah Morton. Eman used a holeshot to beat Morton, clocking a 4.206-second pass, compared to Morton's 4.191. Where Eman beat Morton was at the light, with a .034 reaction time, while Morton was two hundredths slower at .058.

"I'm happy with what I was able to do (at Topeka), and I just need to (keep) trying harder," said Eman, who competed in two ADRL races last year. "I just need to keep getting better at my lights and keep them more consistent. If we can keep up our performance as a team, hopefully we can win a race."

At Topeka, the first round of Pro Extreme Motorcycle, Extreme Pro Stock, Pro Nitrous, and Extreme 10.5 were completed before the race was postponed Saturday evening by persistent rain. The plan is to complete the Topeka event at St. Louis. The ADRL Hardee's Gateway Drags are Aug. 6-7 at Gateway International Raceway.

The next ADRL event is July 23-24 at Houston, but the Topeka race couldn't be finished there because the Houston schedule is already crammed.

At the season-opening ADRL race March 19-20 at

Houston Raceway Park, qualifying was never completed. So at Houston July 23-24, the first Houston race will be completed followed by the new Houston race.

Eman's solid effort at Topeka came on the heels of him qualifying a career-best third at the ADRL event in Martin, Mich., June 11-12. He beat Mark Martino in the opening round, but lost in the second round to Steven Boone.

Actually, Martino is who Eman faces in the second round at Topeka when that race resumes.

While there are numerous roads to professional drag racing, Eman has taken a different path to the ADRL.

"I started bracket racing when I was 16 years old in Aruba," Eman explained. "I was born and raised there and I bracket raced there for about two to three years. Then, I came to the United States to go to college, and I started racing here."

Eman is attending college at the University of Central Florida in Orlando. He is a senior at UCF majoring in mechanical engineering and he is scheduled to graduate in December of 2011.

"I came to the United States because the universities we have in Aruba are a medical school, a law (school) university or a hospitality management (school)," Eman said. "Aruba is pretty limited for universities and if you want to become an engineer, you either have to come to the United States or Europe to go to school. I'm going to school full-time, trying to mix everything together. I hope the professor doesn't put an

exam on race weekends."

Although Eman is getting a college education, he has no plans of quitting racing.

"The degree is just a back-up," Eman said. "We would like to keep racing and keep this Aruba thing going on."

Eman's 2006 Ford Escort is a postcard for Aruba. It's painted orange, yellow and blue and has www.aruba.com written in orange across both sides of the car.

"We're sponsored by the government of Aruba," Eman said. "We get sponsored by them and the goal we have is to try and convince people to go take a vacation to Aruba. Everybody we talk to at the track, racers, fans whomever. We have free information to give out and Aruba relies on tourism."

"We just really enjoy racing," Eman said. "We were doing it for a very long time in Aruba, and it got to the point where we had two Pro Stock cars in Aruba and we were the only two Pro Stock cars in Aruba. It got to the point where we wanted to try something different and something more challenging, so we decided to try racing in the United States. We came up with that idea in 2004 and it has kept going. We didn't think we would still be doing it in 2010."

Prior to joining the ADRL, Eman's team competed in IHRA Pro Stock races the last two to three years. In addition to the ADRL, Eman also is competing this year in the Mountain Motor Pro Stock Association.

Eman knows a win on the racetrack will most likely translate into a win for Aruba. And, a win for Aruba is a way to keep his racing funded.

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Nohely Arteaga visits La Trattoria El Faro Blanco Restaurant



Nohely Arteaga (C) with Jessica Lacle, Internal Auditor, and Chef Alberto Castillo



Nohely Arteaga with famous Bar Tender of La Trattoria Fai Henriquez

Recently, well-known Venezuelan artist Nohely Arteaga paid a visit to La Trattoria El Faro Blanco Restaurant.

The Venezuelan artist is no stranger the famous Italian restaurant; every time she visits Aruba she makes sure to drop and greet her friends there. This time was no exception, Nohely showed up with her husband Hernan Perez and her friend Norinda Ras to once again savor all the Italian specialties served at her favorite dining place.

There they had a very pleasant evening, enjoying a nice dinner on the spectacular terrace. At the end of the evening they expressed their satisfaction for the exquisite dishes and impeccable services which are the trademarks

of the restaurant. They also had high praise for Joey Valladolid. "Como siempre, el servicio y los paisajes hicieron nuestra cena inolvidable" - as always the service and the scenery made our dinner an unforgettable experience, Nohely expressed with her husband Hernan adding: "esto es espectacular" - this is spectacular!

Nohely Arteaga is a popular soap opera actress at Venezuelan TV channel RCTV, acting in, among others, 'Topacio,' 'Emperatriz' and 'Las dos Dianas.' She also stood out for her acting in 'El pais de las mujeres,' 'Amantes de luna llena,' and 'Cosita Rica.' One of her biggest passions is theatre and she is convinced that family is blessing from God.

Aruba Hi-Winds 2010 draws to a close with a gala night at Paseo Herencia Mall



All Hi Winds Volunteers



Juniors Champion Richard Cecilia from Aruba



Kid of the huts Kaje van der Lubbe of Curacao



Women's Kite Surfing champion

Scores of competitors with friends and family invaded the Paseo Herencia Mall for the awards dinner of the 24th Annual Aruba Hi-Winds on Monday evening. A full weekend of windsurfing and kiteboarding action ended with prizes galore for athletes ranging in ages from six years old to their 50, such the attraction and dedication to these sports.

Participants and winners hailed from Holland, Argentina, Curacao, Bonaire, and of course, for the main part, from Aruba.

The Hi-Winds, considered one of the most prestigious amateur competitions in the Caribbean, if not the world, attracts scores of enthusiasts from around the globe for what is considered some of the most ideal windsurfing and kiteboarding conditions to be found anywhere.



Men's Supermaster winner Miles Borash of USA and second place from Venezuela

Taste of Belgium provided a delectable barbecue dinner; the Plaza Padu was properly dressed for the occasion and sponsors such as Bula Surf Shop, Colombian Emeralds, Nobile kitesurfing equipment, Aruba Tourism Authority, and Consales, distributors of Monster Energy Drink on Aruba, provided prizes for

the dozens of winners in a diversity of categories.

Aruba put on a particular strong showing, with Holland dominating the Men's Slalom and Hendryk Balentien taking the title of "King of the Huts" for Men's Free-style. Venezuela put on a good show, as did "Prince of the Huts" Felix Martina from Curacao.

Organizers expressed their particular gratitude to the many volunteers who gave unstintingly of their time during the five days of the Hi-Winds, as well as restaurants and vendors who sponsored the meals and refreshments for the contenders and their families, particularly top sponsor Amstel Bright.

For a list of complete results of the Hi-Winds 2010, visit their website hiwinds-aruba.com.

by Rosalie Klein



Breakfast
7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

<p>EGG DISHES *2 eggs sunny side up with ham & cheese *Scrambled with ham, cheese, onions, green pepper, tomato, mushroom *Plain omelettes with ham, cheese, onion, green pepper, tomato, mushroom</p> <p>All egg dishes are served with a choice of : white or whole wheat baguette or sliced toasted bread.</p> <p>*PASTECHEI HORNA *CRÊPES *SWEET CRÊPES *BAGEL with cream cheese, smoked salmon, boiled egg</p>	<p>LOCAL BREAKFAST *Pan grandi (di rama) or baguette *KERRIE-KERRIE (FISH) *CONCH *FISH EGG *SHRIMPS *FISH FILLET *FISH CAKE *CHICKEN SOUP</p> <p>*FRUIT SALAD & YOGHURT *HOT BEVERAGES *COLD BEVERAGES</p>
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Anger as Jennifer Lopez set to rock north Cyprus

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AFP) — Pop star Jennifer Lopez will give a concert in the Turkish-held statelet of northern Cyprus later this month, organisers said yesterday, amid outrage among Greek Cypriots.

The US diva will arrive in the breakaway Turkish Republic of Cyprus (TRNC) on a private jet on July 22 ahead of a July 24 concert at the Cratos Premium Hotel in Kyrenia to celebrate its opening, said a representative for the Istanbul-based Bozgroup which operates the hotel.

Lopez -- who will be accompanied by her husband, singer Marc Anthony, and their twins Max and Emme -- will also celebrate her 41st birthday at a "special party" following the concert at the



five-star hotel.

"There is no cancellation. A contract was signed and she was paid," the representative told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity.



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NEW	daily:	4:30	6:30	8:45
	matinee:	12:00	2:15	late show: 11:00
PG-13	THE TWILIGHT SAGA: ECLIPSE			
NEW	daily:	5:45	8:30	
	matinee:	12:00	3:00	late show: 11:15
PG	THE KARATE KID			
	daily:		6:00	9:00
	matinee:	12:15	3:15	late show: 11:45
PG-13	GROWN UPS			
	daily:	4:45	7:00	9:15
	matinee:	12:00	2:30	late show: 11:30
PG	TOY STORY 3 3D			
	daily:	4:15	6:45	
	matinee:	1:45	late show:	
PG-13	THE A-TEAM			
	daily:		9:15	
	matinee:		late show: 12:00	
PG	MARMADUKE			
	daily:	5:00	7:15	
	matinee:	12:30	2:45	late show:
PG-13	PRINCE OF PERSIA			
	daily:		9:30	
	matinee:		late show: 12:00	

AT PASEO HERENCIA

PG	THE LAST AIRBENDER			
NEW	daily:	4:45	7:00	
	matinee:	12:15	2:30	late show:
PG-13	THE TWILIGHT SAGA: ECLIPSE			
NEW	daily:	5:30	8:30	
	matinee:	12:00	2:45	late show: 11:15
PG-13	KILLERS			
	daily:	5:00	7:15	9:30
	matinee:	12:00	2:30	late show: 11:45
PG-13	THE A-TEAM			
	daily:		9:15	
	matinee:		late show: 11:45	
PG	KNIGHT & DAY			
	daily:	4:00	6:30	9:00
	matinee:	1:30	late show: 11:30	
PG	THE KARATE KID			
	daily:	6:00	8:45	
	matinee:	12:00	3:00	late show: 11:45
PG	TOY STORY 3 3D			
	daily:	4:15	6:45	
	matinee:	1:45	late show:	
R	GET HIM TO THE GREEK			
	daily:		9:15	
	matinee:		late show: 12:00	

KNIGHT AND DAY- Action/Comedy

June Havens (Diaz) finds her everyday life tangled with that of a secret agent (Cruise) who has realized he isn't supposed to survive his latest mission. As their campaign to stay alive stretches across the globe, they soon learn that all they can count on is each other.

Science/Tech

Tell-a-Friend Coming as App on iPhone, BlackBerry, Android

Online word-of-mouth marketing widget Tell-a-Friend is likely to be offered as an application for the iPhone, BlackBerry and phones running the Android operating system, according to an executive of SocialTwist, the company that offers the widgets.

The Tell-a-Friend widget lets users share content from a Web site directly with their friends through a variety of methods including e-mail, instant message social networks or their blogs.

SocialTwist hopes mobile phone users will adopt the widget as the basic communications front-end to send email and instant messages and to post content on Twitter, Facebook and other social networking sites, Vijay Pullur, founder and CEO of SocialTwist, said on Tuesday.

SocialTwist was recently spun off as a separate company from Pramati Technologies, an Indian software company in Hyderabad, India.

SocialTwist expects to earn revenue from its mobile application in a variety of ways, including targeted advertising, Pullur said. It also expects the application to be useful for marketing programs from vendors. For example, it could be used for contests that call on users to share interesting photographs or other content from their mobile phones, Pullur said.

The application is expected to be available for the various mobile phone platforms by May next year, Pullur said.



SocialTwist currently has about 70,000 Web sites using the widget, of which about 10 percent are paid. The company started offering Tell-a-Friend in 2008 as a free hosted service to users, who have to download and add JavaScript code to their Web site or blog to get started.

The information provided to users under the free program includes the number of referrals made through the widget and the channel users used to communicate with their friends. The company has the option to run advertisements on the widgets under the free program, but hasn't started doing so yet, Pullur said.

SocialTwist started making money on the program last year by offering special schemes to small businesses and big brand companies, that include information on referrals, analytics, and better control over the brand and content that appears on the widget. The widget can be integrated by advertisers in their advertisements both on

their own and third party sites by including the JavaScript code.

SocialTwist also introduced the option of a rewards program. Vendors can for example reward customers with discount coupons for making a certain number of referrals through the widget.

A launch on Wednesday in India will also offer local marketers the option of paying for clicks by users receiving the referral, rather than paying for the number of referrals. In the U.S., the company charges by referrals and the duration of the campaign, though about 30 percent of people who received the referrals actually click through, Pullur said. The new pricing model is expected to break the resistance of Indian marketers to having to pay without seeing definite results, he added.

Indian users will be charged Indian rupees 20,000 (US\$428) for 2,000 clicks by users, regardless of the duration of the campaign, Pullur said.

Divorce not always bad for kids

In marriages with a lot of conflict, "staying together for the kids" might do more harm than good, a new study suggests.

Children of parents who fight a lot yet stay married experience more conflict in their own adult relationships than children of parents who fight and do get a divorce.

"The basic implication is, 'Don't stay together for the sake of the children if you're in a high conflict marriage,'" said study researcher Constance Gager, of Montclair State University in New Jersey.

Some studies have shown children of divorced parents are more likely to get a di-



vorce themselves, but it was not completely clear whether it was the divorce itself or the parents' conflict that had the greater impact on a child's relationships.

Divorcing decisions

Children who grew up in high conflict families fared

better in their adult relationships if their parents got a divorce.

Study results held even after the researchers took into account other factors that could have influenced the children's relationships when they were older, such as the whether the participants acted out as a children or had trouble getting along with others.

That isn't to say divorce doesn't affect children in the short-term, the researchers say.

"There is research to show in the short-term, kids go through a one- to two-year crisis period when their parents divorce, but that they are resilient, and they come back from that divorce," Gager said.



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HEALTH

Study: Too Many Video Games May Sap Attention Span

Parents who believe that playing video games is less harmful to their kids' attention spans than watching TV may want to reconsider—and unplug the Xbox. Video games can sap a child's attention just as much as the tube, a new study suggests.

Elementary school children who play video games more than two hours a day are 67% more likely than their peers who play less to have greater-than-average attention problems, according to the study, which appears in the journal *Pediatrics*.

Playing video games and watching TV appear to have roughly the same link to attention problems, even though video games are considered a less passive activity, the researchers say.

"Video games aren't less likely than television to be related to attention problems," says the lead author of the study, Edward Swing, a doctoral candidate in the department of psychology at Iowa State University, in Ames. "They were at least as strong as television at predicting attention problems."

However, the study doesn't prove that video games directly cause attention problems. It could be that kids who have short attention spans to begin with might be more likely to pick up a joystick than a book, for instance.

The relationship between video games and attention is probably a two-way street, Swing says. "It wouldn't surprise me if children who have attention problems are attracted to these media, and that these media increase the attention problems," he says.

Swing and his colleagues followed more than 1,300 children in the third, fourth, and fifth grades for a little over a year. The researchers asked both the kids and their parents to estimate how many hours per week the kids spent watching TV and playing video games, and they assessed the children's attention spans by surveying their schoolteachers.

Previous studies have examined the effect of TV or video games on attention problems, but not both. By looking at video-game use as

well as TV watching, Swing and his colleagues were able to show for the first time that the two activities have a similar relationship to attention problems.

C. Shawn Green, PhD, a postdoctoral associate in the department of psychology at the University of Minnesota, in Minneapolis, points out that the study doesn't distinguish between the type of attention required to excel at a video game and that required to excel in school.

"A child who is capable of playing a video game for hours on end obviously does not have a global problem with paying attention," says Green, who has researched video games but was not involved in the current study. "The question, then, is why are they able to pay attention to a game but not in school? What expectancies have the games set up that aren't being delivered in a school setting?"

Experts have suggested that modern TV shows are so exciting and fast paced that they make reading and schoolwork seem dull by

comparison, and the same may be true for video games, the study notes.

It's unclear from this study whether that's the case, however, because Swing and his colleagues didn't look at the specific games the kids were playing.

"We weren't able to break [the games] down by educational versus non-educational or nonviolent versus violent," says Swing, adding that the impact different types of games may have on attention is a ripe area for future research.

The study also suggests that young kids aren't the only ones whose attention spans may be affected by video games.

In addition to surveying the elementary school kids, the researchers asked 210 college students about their TV and video-game use and how they felt it affected their attention. The students who logged more than two hours of TV and video games a day were about twice as likely to have attention problems, the researchers found.

These attention problems later in life may be the result of "something cumulative that builds up over a lifetime" or "something that happens early in life at some critical period and then stays with you," Swing says. "Either way, there are implications that would lead us to want to reduce television and video games in childhood."

The American Academy of Pediatrics, the leading professional organization for pediatricians and the publisher of *Pediatrics*, recommends that parents limit all "screen time" (including video and computer games) to less than two hours per day.

For his part, Green says that how much time kids spend playing video games should be a matter of common sense and parental judgment.

"A hard boundary, such as two hours, is completely arbitrary," he says. "Children are individuals, and what makes sense for one won't necessarily work for another."

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Commencement exercises 2010 E.P.I. Tourism Sector – Aruba's future tourism leaders



Since Aruba established its tourism and culinary training institute 28 years ago, it has produced graduates who have gone on to leadership positions in the island's fundamental industry, such as the present Minister of Tourism, Transport and Labor, Otmar Oduber. He sent his regrets he could not be present at the graduation of the 36 young people who completed the 3 and 4 year courses that awarded them either an

Associate of Applied Science Degree in Culinary Arts or an Associate of Science Degree in Hospitality Management, respectively. However, Minister of Economic and Social Affairs and Culture, Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar, as Keynote Speaker and Minister of Justice and Education, Arthur Dowers, addressed the graduating class of the E.P.I Tourism Sector 2010.

Commencement exercises

were conducted at the Cas di Cultura on Monday evening, and faculty recognized the accomplishment of the 16 Culinary Institute graduates and the 20 Hospitality Management students, a mixed group not only from Aruba, but boasting students from Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, Bonaire, Suriname, Haiti, The Philippines, the Netherlands, Ecuador and St. Maarten. In fact, one of the Haitian students, Soniel Lake, graduating with a degree in Culinary Arts, was singled out twice to be honored with the E.P.I. award for Leadership and another for Excellence in his chosen field of study.

Among the Tourism Management Sector, Leadership Award went to Giovanna Luidens, the elected valedictorian for her class; Shakir Hazel delivered a very touching and amusing farewell speech on behalf of the students of the apprentice cooks program. A particularly poignant moment was dedicated to the awarding of the School Spirit Award in Culinary Arts to Maybelline Whittier, which is now the Randell Franken Memorial Award. Randall, an outstanding student and active in the community, lost his life a few months ago in a traffic accident; his absence was keenly felt during the graduation ceremony, and his mother, Janice, was called to the stage to

present the award.

Winning the School Spirit Award for the Tourism Management Sector was Christine Leo, and those declared most academically improved during their tenure at E.P.I were Reginald Hoek in the culinary program and Georxinia Croes in tourism management. Final student honors for Academic Excellence judged by the highest GPA went to Ricardo Wever and Rachel Singodojo in the culinary and tourism sectors, respectively.

Students also took a moment to honor their faculty and members of Aruba's tourism industry who assisted them with special programs. This year, the Faculty Team Spirit Award, an honor decided by both students and faculty members, went to Zahaira Kelly, who, among her duties, also sees to the placement of 200 culinary arts students for their internships in various venues on the island, "This is no easy task," commented school instructor Randy Geerman, MC for the evening. Julien Larez was the student honored for her outstanding internship conduct, which benefits future students and enhances the school's reputation.

Deans Ryan Maduro, Andres Geerman and Rachelle Wever with faculty member Chef Alvin Leest distributed

the awards and diplomas. When Aruba's tourism school was integrated into the E.P.I. program in 1996, it reached a level of professionalism that has attracted students from around the world, which was demonstrated by the first Chef and Student Culinary Competition conducted this past year, which attracted the attention of the American Culinary Federation.

Minister Hooyboer-Winklaar, during her address, reminded the graduates of their importance to Aruba's future, and urged them to realize that graduation is not an end to learning; life is a daily and continuing process of education to achieve excellence in any profession. "It is good to be confident and have a positive attitude, but temper it with a bit of humility," she expressed. "You may think you know what you want to do now, or perhaps not; I know people who are 40 years old who are still not sure what they want to do. Be prepared to take advantage of the opportunities life offers you and the possibility of change," she advised the class.

THE MORNING NEWS offers their congratulations to all the outstanding students who reflect the future of Aruba's tourism and restaurant industry!

by Rosalie Klein

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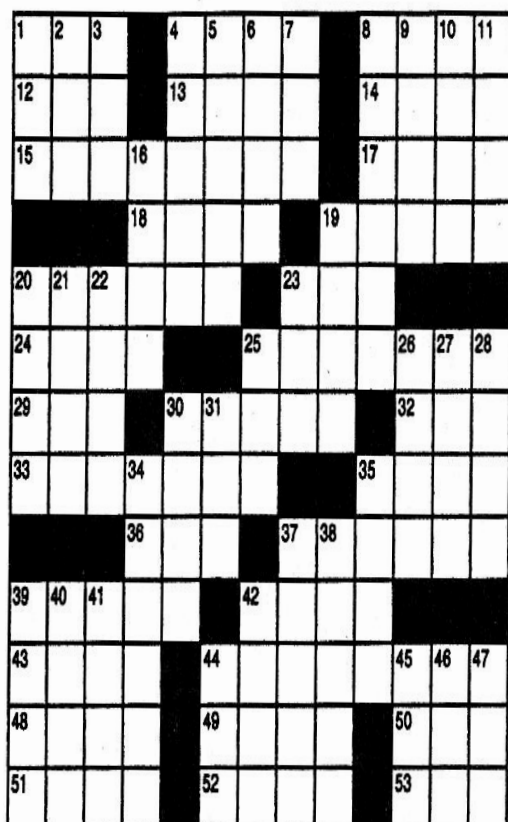


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ACROSS

1. Paid player
4. Pious platitudes
8. Eatery
12. Corn unit
13. Helm position
14. Absent
15. Amusing account



17. Undercover spy
18. Scarce as _____ teeth
19. Markets
20. Expand
23. Soap unit
24. At the summit of
25. Equilibrium
29. Mr. Auerbach
30. Spring
32. Conger, e.g.
33. May's gem
35. Hand part
36. Total
37. Oysters' output
39. Couple of times
42. Type of eagle
43. Endanger
44. Comely
48. Actor Eric _____
49. Helper
50. Explosive sound
51. Swimming contest
52. Sirius, e.g.
53. Pedal digit
7. Crossed letter
8. Tourist's need
9. Military truant: abbr.
10. Be overthrown
11. Ocular orbs
16. Roughen
19. Brine feature
20. "Truth or _____"
21. News bit
22. Miner's vein
23. Forbid
25. Type of vase
26. Nigh
27. Alcatraz room
28. Shade givers
30. Diminish
31. Like antiques
34. Lend's implement
35. Protectors
37. Ling-Ling, e.g.
38. Church official
39. Decorate
40. Expansive
41. Wight or Man
42. Entice
44. Contains
45. Select
46. Bossy's comment
47. Ram's mate

DOWN

1. Soup or jacket
2. Kurosawa film
3. Galena, e.g.
4. West Pointer
5. "Home _____"
6. Seines

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6	5	1	8	7	2	9	4	3
2	5	6	7	8	9	1	4	3
9	7	1	5	6	3	8	2	4
8	6	3	9	1	2	5	7	4
4	9	7	8	1	2	6	5	3
5	8	2	5	6	4	1	9	7
3	1	6	7	2	9	4	8	5

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YOGI	ORT	
UNCAGE	SPINOZA	
PARKS	TURNIS	OVA
OMEI	PARES	SNAG
NEE	ALLAY	THESE
SPINACH	GHOSTS	
ROT	ALAR	
SPIN	THEBOTTLE	
JARS	EARLS	CALM
ERIE	DIMES	UGLI
TAGS	GARY	TSAR

BP oil spill costs soar above 3 billion dollars

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana (AFP) – BP's costs over the Gulf of Mexico oil spill soared above three billion dollars, while a giant Taiwanese ship provided hope of revolutionizing on-sea skimming operations.

"The cost of the response to date amounts to approximately 3.12 billion dollars, including the cost of the spill response, containment, relief well drilling, grants to the Gulf states, claims paid, and federal costs," BP said.

The latest estimate is far higher than the 2.65 billion dollars given by the energy firm one week ago.

BP's share price has col-

lapsed more than 50 percent since the Deepwater Horizon oil rig it leased sank on April 22, two days after a blast that killed 11 workers.

After intense pressure from President Barack Obama over the worst ever US environmental disaster, BP agreed last month to suspend its shareholder dividend and create a 20-billion-dollar fund for costs arising from the spill.

BP is also selling non-core assets to raise 10 billion dollars, while international ratings agencies have downgraded the company's credit worthiness.

But Monday, spokesman Robert Wine discredited a Sunday Times report that the

company was turning to rival oil groups and sovereign wealth funds from Asia and the oil-rich Middle East to fend off a possible hostile takeover bid.

"We have no current plans to issue new equity," he told AFP.

Nearly a week after Hurricane Alex swept through the region, bad weather continued to hamper the clean-up, keeping smaller skimming vessels tied up in harbors in the affected Gulf states of Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

Skimming and other operations have resumed in calmer seas off the coast of Louisiana, however.

EU bank supervision project stalls over powers

STRASBOURG, France (AFP) – An EU project to create pan-European watchdogs to police the financial sector hit a snag yesterday as negotiations between EU lawmakers and states stalled over how much power to give them.

The European Parliament postponed a vote on the plan until September to give negotiators more time to reach a deal on what authority to grant to the agencies, which would oversee banks, insurers and markets.

EU states want power to ultimately rest in the hands of national agencies while the European parliament seeks to give the new cross-border authorities enough influence.

Britain, fearful that supervi-

sion of the London financial center by Brussels would end up costing it taxpayers' money, secured in December safeguards that would give states a de facto veto on decisions made by the new bodies.

"No agreement is possible with the 27 (EU states) if we cannot establish European oversight authorities," said the head of parliament's Liberal bloc, Belgium's Guy Verhofstadt.

The creation of the supervisory bodies is a key plank of Europe's efforts to protect the continent from future financial crises.

EU financial services commissioner Michel Barnier piled the pressure on governments to reach a deal with parliament after the two sides negotiated for hours without success.

"The ball is in their court," said Barnier, who called for an

"intelligent and credible agreement."

Barnier said he hoped progress would be made at a meeting of European finance ministers next Tuesday in Brussels, which could mark a "key stage" in the negotiations.

The European Parliament will vote today on a political declaration stating its position in order to pressure governments into finding a compromise, said Social Democratic lawmaker Udo Bullmann.

The parliament "always has a level of demands that is clearly higher than what the (European) Council proposes," said Liberal European MP Sylvie Goulard.

"What is bothersome among some people is this sort of refusal that the supervision could take place at the European level," she said.

Euro rises against dollar

LONDON, England (AFP) – The euro rose against the dollar yesterday as risk appetite returned to the market amid fears for the US economy, analysts said.

The euro climbed to 1.2583 dollars from 1.2538 dollars late in New York on Monday.

Against the Japanese currency, the dollar climbed to 87.94 yen from 87.77 on Monday.

The European single currency is seen as a riskier investment than the dollar, while the euribor is the euro-denominated interbank lending rate.

Berlin: Lower German deficit an example for Europe

BERLIN, Germany (AFP) – Germany's federal deficit is set to be much lower than expected, a draft budget suggested yesterday, as Berlin holds up its tough line on spending as the best way for Europe to exit its debt crisis.

Helped by an unexpectedly strong economic upturn, the deficit in Europe's top economy will amount to about 65 billion euros (81 billion dollars) this year compared to a previous estimate of 80 billion euros.

Next year, the deficit will be 57.5 billion euros, nearly 20 billion less than feared, according to figures in the draft budget, obtained by AFP.

"Overall, this is a timely chink of light with respect to fiscal woes," said Padhraic Garvey from ING bank.

The draft budget bill, which will be discussed in cabinet today, said the lesson from the debt crisis in Greece was that countries must slash budgets to emerge from the crisis.

Chancellor Angela Merkel's coalition government is aiming to cut at least 80 billion euros from public spending by 2014, including more than 11 billion euros next year.

It has also passed a "debt brake" law that binds Berlin to a balanced budget by 2016 at the latest.



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Published Monday thru Saturday

Seychella Koolman presents Sambil magazine to Minister Otmar Oduber



Recently, Minister of Labor, Transport and Tourism Otmar Oduber, received a courtesy visit from renown international Aruba model Seychella Koolman.

Ms. Koolman handed Minister Oduber a copy of Sambil, a Venezuelan magazine which dedicated a few pages to her.

Present at the occasion was Venezuelan photographer Sergio Francesco, who discovered Ms. Koolman during a casting on Aruba.

Ms. Koolman is a 15 year-old who considers modeling as a hobby. Her studies are more important to her; she shows great maturity and thinks that her modeling can help Aruba gain international fame.

Sambil is a magazine of the Venezuelan shopping mall Sambil, which is now

broadening its horizons to the Dominican Republic and Panama. It is also available in the hotel rooms of Caracas' most renowned hotels. The photo shoot of featured in the magazine of Ms. Koolman was done on Aruba, at different locations, showing the beauty of our island.

Soon, Sambil will publish an edition with Minister Oduber where he will promote Aruba to the Venezuelan market. This market has diminished substantially and the minister is doing his utmost to recover it. It is the islands second biggest market after the U.S.A.

During the visit, Minister Oduber congratulated Ms. Koolman for her success and thanked her for her cooperation in promoting Aruba abroad.

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Cozy, comfy and incredibly affordable, The Queen's offers an authentic taste of Aruba!

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.) Thus, eating out at the authentically Aruban restaurant, The Queen's, is very affordable, with a true taste of regional cuisine.

Owner Varella Innocencia confesses she opened her restaurant in Oranjestad because "I grew up with this, and loved serving people our island food. My father and mother operated the little restaurant across from the Americana, which some may remember, the original Arawak. I remember how much our customers loved trying the local food, and they especially loved the prices!"

Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, which is acknowledged on the menu with "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"- "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak.

Two local TV personalities were caught enjoying lunch at The Queen's. They declared, after several visits, they judged the food to be "excellent," and particularly recommended Grandma's secret recipe. We also bumped into island visitors Jim and Callie from Michigan, who were eager to try island food, and were more than pleased with their venture into local cuisine. "We will definitely return to The Queen's," they affirmed, "the food was delicious and the prices are more than right."

The menu sports a variety



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef

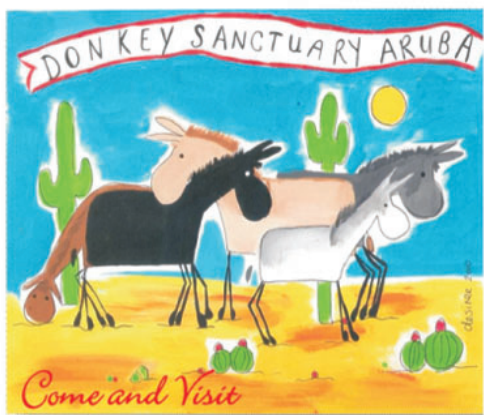


Keshi Yena with plaintains, vegetables and pica

of steaks and tenderloin, fresh caught seafood, Caribbean lobster, and of course, one of our favorites, and what we consider a true test of local cuisine, "Keshi Yena"- "Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lent that

perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

Located next to the water at the end of the Weststraat, The Queen's is open from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. They also have daily specials, aside from an extensive menu; made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa was in the mood to prepare. We noticed a steady stream of islanders coming for lunch in the pleasant surroundings or picking up take-out containers; always a sure sign of a winner is where the locals like to eat!



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Run on German coach's 'lucky' World Cup sweater



BERLIN, Germany – Football-mad Germans have snapped up the "lucky" blue cashmere sweater that German coach Joachim Loew gives partial credit for his side's World Cup winning streak, a retail chain said yesterday.

The jumpers have flown off the shelves, upscale clothier Strenesse said, with fans having to travel to the neighbouring Netherlands, home of the Germans' fellow semi-finalists, to get their hands on the talisman Loew has worn at three German victories.

"We're completely out of stock," a company spokeswoman said.

The 50-year-old's backroom staff have demanded Loew wear the cobalt cashmere in the semi-final against Spain today, as he has every time Germany have scored four goals in a match at the finals in wintry South Africa.

Loew, who replaced Jurgen Klinsmann after the 2006 finals, donned the v-neck in the opening 4-0 humbling of Aus-

tralia, the 4-1 destruction of old foes England and then the 4-0 humiliation of Argentina Saturday -- the first time that a team has thrice scored four goals in the finals.

He told reporters that "Germany's miraculous sweater," as the daily Bild has dubbed it, might just have magic powers.

"I am not really superstitious but deputy coach Hansi Flick and others basically forced me to put it back on --

it gave us four goals at each of the matches," the dapper trainer said. "There's no way I'm changing my sweater, or even washing it."

Despite sweltering temperatures in much of Germany, shoppers cannot get enough of the 199-euro (250-dollar) sweater in "Jogi" blue. Those willing to sacrifice authenticity for comfort can purchase cotton or mixed-blend lookalikes, Strenesse said.

Meanwhile desperate fans in Berlin were coveting the Jogi look.

"I wanted one for my dad -- he would have been so happy," 26-year-old Anna Gruber said as she surveyed an empty shelf at Strenesse. "He already has the Jogi shirt."

During the European Championships in 2008, the trim Loew wore a snugly tailored white button-down that also became an iconic fashion statement.

Then the Germans made it to the final, before losing to Spain.

Hotels in France embrace the virtues of going green



An employee of the Fouquet's Barriere Hotel uses a "e.solex," operated by an electric motor and put at the service of the hotel's clients

PARIS, France (AFP) – Wood-burning stoves, in-room recycling, fine cuisine featuring local produce: from bed-and-breakfasts to five-star palaces, France's hotel industry is opening its eyes to the lucrative advantages of going green.

"Our business involves a lot of water, electricity and rubbish, so our goal is to limit our impact on the environment and considerably reduce our carbon emissions," said Bernard Granier, director general of Concorde Hotels, which runs the opulent Le Crillon in Paris and the Hotel Martinez in Cannes.

The chic Fouquet's Barriere, adjoining the eponymous bistro on the Champs-Elysees, wants to cut its CO2

output by 20 percent by 2020 -- and in the same spirit, it offers guests the use of a hybrid car or an electric scooter.

At the stately Bristol, next door to the Elysee Palace, leftovers from its three-star restaurants and kitchens are put through an industrial-sized processor that extracts water used to clean the floors.

Outside the French capital, more modest establishments are going beyond the usual norm of installing energy-efficient lightbulbs or asking guests to refrain from using too many bath towels.

The Temmos group of five three- and four-star hotels in the French Alps is striving to have all its properties bedecked with European Eco-label and international Green Globe certification.

For the WWF-World Wide Fund for Nature, every green initiative is "a good thing, so long as it is coherent and not just commercial," said Mohend Mahouche, a tourism specialist for the environmental group.

"Carbon ratings are good as tools for evaluation, but what you have to look at is the way in which they are used," added Julia Haake, director for partnership with business at the WWF.

"For instance, do they take

into account how far the guests have travelled -- especially if 90 percent of them are foreigners coming from far away?"

Olivier Petit of the global consulting firm Deloitte said sustainable development has become "an element of positive discrimination" -- something of an optional extra that makes a business look better.

"In five years, that will no longer be the case," he said. "On the contrary, to not adhere to sustainable development will be a negative factor."

Having recognised how going green can be good for business, the Gites de France network of bed-and-breakfasts has doubled to around 100 its number of certified "eco-gites" with such features as solar heating.

More than 200 more are in the pipeline, Gites de France says.

"The hotel industry has seen a real acceleration in this area over the past three years," said Philippe Francois, chairman of Francois Tourisme, a consultancy that specialises in sustainable development for hotels and tourism.

But much remains to be done, as many hoteliers think that big investments are needed in order to come across as virtuous vis-a-vis the environment -- no small consideration in hard economic times.

"In fact, 80 percent of what needs to be done costs nothing, because they involve changes in conduct and attitudes which alone can be profitable in financial, environmental, social and image terms," Francois said.

Paul says 'Ole,' ignores German delicacy

Octopus Paul is seen fixing the Spanish flag during his oracular for the semifinal match at the World Cup in South Africa between Germany and Spain in the Sea-Life Aquarium in Oberhausen, Germany, yesterday.

Paul predicted all German matches during the World Cup 100 percent right. Octopus oracle Paul is predicting Germany will be defeated by Spain at the World Cup semifinal.

Sea Life Aquarium's spokesman Daniel Fey said yesterday that the famous



mollusk from Oberhausen chose a mussel from a glass tank marked with a Spanish flag, while ignoring the

tank marked with the German colors - indicating a Spanish victory in today's semifinal.

Stoudemire reaches agreement with Knicks



Stoudemire

NEW YORK (AFP) — Amare Stoudemire is headed to the New York Knicks, and will sign later this week when the free agent signing moratorium ends, he and the team have said.

Stoudemire, wearing a blue Knicks hat, said he looked forward to helping rebuild the flailing franchise - perhaps alongside another marquee free agent such as LeBron James or Dwyane

Wade.

"I feel great about being a pioneer and showing my leadership," he said at Madison Square Garden, where signs showed the player in a Knicks uniform and read "Welcome, Amare Stoudemire."

The deal can't be signed until Thursday, after the salary cap for next season has been confirmed.

Since the free agency negotiating period opened last Thursday, the Knicks have met with a string of free agents, including superstar James - who is mulling whether to stay with Cleveland or make a move to another NBA team. Miami's Wade and Toronto's Chris Bosh face the same decision.

Stoudemire said he had spoken to the James camp and with directly with Wade.

James, meanwhile, gave no indication Monday that he had made up his mind.

He put in an unexpected appearance at a basketball camp in his hometown of Akron, Ohio, working out for two hours and declining to answer any questions.

James has been wooed by the Cavaliers - who dearly want to keep their star - as well as the Knicks, Chicago and at least three other teams.

Wade has also heard pitches from several teams, including Chicago - where he has family ties - and a Miami team keen to keep him.

Cancellara back in Tour lead as Lance loses time to Contador



Yellow Jersey of Overall leader, Switzerland's Fabian Cancellara celebrates on the podium

ARENBERG, France (AFP) — Seven-time champion Lance Armstrong was one of the big losers on the Tour de France on Tuesday as the cobblestones of the feared third stage exacted a heavy toll on the peloton.

Norwegian Thor Hushovd took the stage honours, and with that the race's green jersey, after an epic day of racing from Wanze in Belgium to Arenberg, during which

seven sectors of cobblestones caused huge problems.

Overnight leader Sylvain Chavanel of Quick Step lost the race leader's jersey to the man who gave him it on Monday, Fabian Cancellara.

However there was less welcome news for Cancellara's Saxo Bank team as Frank Schleck, who is supposed to play a leading support role in the mountains for younger brother Andy in the

race for the yellow jersey, crashed out injured.

Schleck crashed on one of the cobblestone sectors just as an acceleration from Paris-Roubaix champion Cancellara forced a split on the peloton, leaving Armstrong, Contador and many others behind.

Armstrong then punctured, and had to dig deep to limit the damage before finally finishing 32nd at 2min 08sec behind a six-man front group which also contained Australian Cadel Evans, Andy Schleck and Britain's Geraint Thomas.

Spain's reigning champion Alberto Contador, at only 62kg not suited at all to the cobblestones, was expected to be one of the biggest losers of the day.

However the Spaniard showed his class and determination, and rode a good deal of luck, to finish only 1:13 behind the leaders, taking 55secs off Armstrong in the process.



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Semenya cleared to return to track immediately



MONACO, (AFP) - Controversial athlete Caster Semenya has been cleared to compete as a woman after nearly a year of speculation over her gender, the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) confirmed on Tuesday.

The IAAF has given the 19-year-old South African 800m world champion the green light to run again after

reviewing the results of gender-verification tests.

"The process initiated in 2009 in the case of Caster Semenya has now been completed," the IAAF said in a statement.

"The IAAF accepts the conclusion of a panel of medical experts that she can compete with immediate effect."

The IAAF added: "The medical details of the case remain confidential and the IAAF will make no further comment on the matter."

Semenya has not run since leaked test results said she was a hermaphrodite following her win at the world championships in Berlin in August.

The incident sparked anger from the South African public and government, who have rallied behind the athlete.

Oilers ink top draft pick Hall

EDMONTON, Canada (AFP) — The Edmonton Oilers Monday signed Taylor Hall, the top overall selection in the NHL draft, to a three-year, entry-level contract.

Hall's deal includes the maximum base salary of 900,000 dollars per season and bonuses worth up to 3.75 million dollars per year.

"Now, it's time to work," said Hall, who was headed to a four-day development training camp. "I'm excited to get

started tomorrow. I know this signing is only the first step. I've got a lot of work to do in that camp."

Oilers general manager Steve Tambellini was delighted to get the deal done.

"It was important, I think, the quicker we could take care of business and get the distractions away from him and allow him to get back to Kingston and get training and just focus on getting ready for an NHL camp," he said.



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'Unworthy' Maradona declines presidential invite



BUENOS AIRES (AFP) — Diego Maradona and his Argentinian World Cup squad declined an invitation by the country's president Cristina Kirchner to be received at the presidential palace because they deemed themselves unworthy, the president revealed.

The President - who succeeded her husband Nestor as head of state in December 2007 - also said that she had tried to speak to Maradona following the 4-0 hammering by Germany in Saturday's quarter-final but the former playing great had been too upset to talk.

"You know that this president shows her true colours to the people in the difficult moments and not just the good ones," the 57-year-old told a rally in the northern suburb of San Miguel.

"And I invited our squad to come to the Pink House (the presidential palace).

"The players refused because they felt they did not deserve such an accolade but I believe they are wrong because they all deserved it and I will wait for them. Yes, long live Argentina," she added.

Kirchner, who was a sena-

tor for 12 years before being elected to the presidency, told all Argentinians to be strong in such a moment of sadness which saw the two-time winners fail to reach the last four for the fifth successive finals.

"On Saturday when Germany beat Argentina, Argentinians were very sad," she said.

"But have patience (gather your strength) Maradona, the squad and the country, even if

the sadness will last.

"I called him (Maradona) after his press conference on Saturday but he was not able to talk because he was crying."

However, like most Argentinians, some of whom gave the squad a warm welcome at the airport, she offered her unqualified support to Maradona, who almost singlehandedly inspired the Argentinians to World Cup glory in 1986 where they beat West Germany and then to the final in 1990 where the Germans avenged their defeat.

"I offer my support because nobody has ever given as much pleasure on the pitch than Diego Armando Maradona gave us," she said.

Her speech went down well with her audience who answered with joyous cries of: "Ole, ole, ole, ole, Diegoooo, Diegooooooooo!"

Maradona, who has serious financial worries owing the Italian taxman nearly 40million euros in unpaid taxes and interest accrued, hinted on his return to Argentina that he was going to step down.

Germany's Bastian Schweinsteiger: Spain are the best team in the world

Spain are the favorites, says the 25 year old

Germany midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger admits that Spain will head into their semi-final encounter as favorites.

The two European heavyweights will clash in the second semi-final of the World Cup in Durban, South Africa this afternoon. The last time the two sides met in a competitive fixture was two years ago in the final of Euro 2008. At the time Spain emerged victorious as they won 1-0, thanks to a Fernando Torres goal.

Germany have been the more impressive of the two sides, having dispatched England and Argentina in the earlier rounds of the knockout stage with ease. Schweinsteiger himself has been in excellent form in the competition and ran the midfield against the Argentinians in the quarter-finals.

However, the Bayern Munich midfielder insists that Spain, and not Germany, are the favorites to win Wednes-

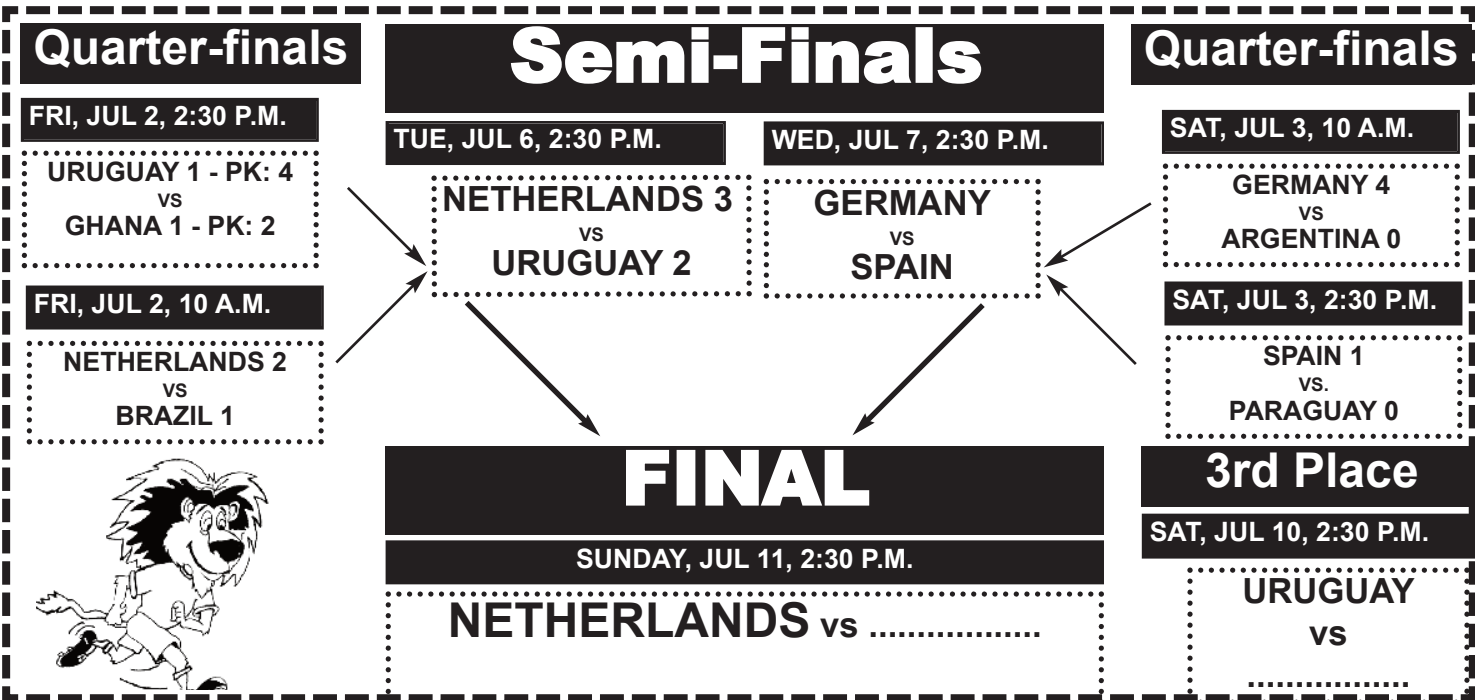
day's encounter. The 25-year-old has been quoted by PA as saying: "Losing a final always causes frustration and disappointment but Spain were definitely the better team [in the Euro 2008 final]."

"On paper Spain are still the better team but I think we have shown in our last two games that we can beat teams that appear the better ones on paper.

"For me, Spain are the best team in the world. It will be tough just like it was against England and Argentina but I've a lot of faith in this team because we've seen what we can do if we all pull together."

The 25-year-old added: "Now we have fresh faces and different characters - an unencumbered state of mind. The younger players who have come in have gained experience during this tournament.

"Spain haven't changed that much. Sergio Busquets has replaced Marcos Senna but otherwise they are pretty much the same team as two years ago."



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FIFA World Cup South Africa Dutch into FINALS!



The Netherlands players celebrate with goalscorer Arjen Robben after he scores his team's third goal

CAPE TOWN (AFP) – The Netherlands stormed into their first World Cup final since 1978 on Tuesday, beating Uruguay 3-2 to set up a title clash against either Germany or Spain.

Two goals inside three second-half minutes, from Wesley Sneijder and Arjen

Robben, steered the Dutch into the decider and shattered South American hopes.

Veteran Dutch captain Giovanni van Bronckhorst gave his side the lead on 18 minutes with a stunning 35-yard strike before Diego Forlan produced an equally memorable goal four minutes before half-time to keep Uruguay alive.

Maxi Pereira got one back for Uruguay in injury time but it was too little too late.

The last time Holland made it this far was 32 years ago when they fell at the last hurdle to hosts Argentina 3-1 after extra-time.

Coach Bert van Marwijk will be desperate to avoid a

similar fate in the final on Sunday as the Dutch bid to lift the World Cup for the first time in their history.

Despite losing, Uruguay did their small nation proud with coach Oscar Tabarez guiding them to their first semi-final in 40 years.

It was a massive achievement for a country with a population of just 3.4 million, and they must now put their disappointment behind them for a third-place play-off on Saturday.

The Netherlands came into the match as overwhelming favourites after winning all their games in South Africa to go with the eight wins out of eight notched up in qualifying.

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